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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 4-0

In re application of

Docket No: Q62798

Taku ISHIZAWA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/765,411

Group Art Unit: 2861

Confirmation No.: 9456

Examiner: Anh Vo

Filed: January 22, 2001

For: INK CARTRIDGE, AND INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS USING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

## Please enter the following amended claims:

2. (Amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 54, wherein the first outer shell constituent member and the second outer shell constituent member are hermetically coupled together by vibratory welding.

6. (Amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 54, wherein the first outer shell constituent member and the second outer shell constituent member are hermetically coupled together by heat-welding.